

December 20, 2017

**FFY 2018 SECTION 5311 NOTICE OF FUNDING AVAILABILITY**

The purpose of this notice is to announce the availability of Federal Transit Administration (FTA) grant funding financial assistance for Federal Fiscal Year 2018 and 2019 (to be allocated to sub-recipients October 2018-September 2020) administered by the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT).

ADOT's Multimodal Planning Division (MPD) administers the rural Public Transit Program which makes Federal resources available to rural areas with a population under 50,000 for general public transit and intercity transportation.

**Program Overview**

The Formula Grants for Rural Areas Program, codified at 49 U.S.C. 5311 (Section 5311) is authorized under the provisions set forth in the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (FAST Act), Public Law 112-141.

FTA apportions or awards funds to States, Indian tribes, or other eligible recipients located in rural areas for public transportation. Eligible activities include planning, administration, capital projects, operating costs, Intercity and job access reverse commute projects.

Eligible applicants include local governments, non-profits, and Tribal governments. Private operators are eligible to apply for intercity funds through this program. Aside from planning requests, all other new applicants must have a planning feasibility study completed prior to application award.

**Funding Available**

For this two year application process approximately \$13 million will be available for the first year and approximately \$12 million will be available for the second year. This funding is dependent upon FTA apportionment and Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG). Statewide Planning funds may also be awarded.

Further details about the Section 5311 grant programs can be found on the ADOT website <http://azdot.gov/planning/TransitProgramsandGrants>.

**Application Webinars and Workshops**

All applicants are required to attend **one mandatory** application webinar.

<b>Webinar 1</b>	Tuesday, January 9, 2018	1:00 pm to 3:00 pm
<b>Webinar 2</b>	Thursday, January 11, 2018	9:00 am to 11:00 am

Email the 5311 Program Managers Sarah Fitzgerald at [SFitzgerald@azdot.gov](mailto:SFitzgerald@azdot.gov) and Aubree Perry at [APerry2@azdot.gov](mailto:APerry2@azdot.gov) with your preferred date to register for the webinar.

In addition, ADOT will host two hands-on E-grants workshops. These **optional** workshops will provide applicants with in-person training on how to use E-grants to apply for Section 5311 funds.

**Workshop 1**   Wednesday, January 17, 2018                      9 am – 12 pm  
                         Doubletree by Hilton, 1175 Historic Rte. 66, Flagstaff, AZ 86001

**Workshop 2**   Tuesday, January 23, 2018                      9 am – 12 pm  
                         Doubletree Suites by Hilton, 7051 S. Tucson Blvd., Tucson, AZ 85756

All application materials are to be completed and submitted electronically using ADOT's E-Grants system found at <https://egrants.azdot.gov>. The 2018 5311 application will be available in E-Grants by January 8, 2018. Applications are due by **February 21, 2018 at 5:00 pm**. Late applications will not be accepted.

#### Evaluation Criterion

- Appropriateness and Effectiveness of Service
- Benefit to Rural Communities
- Financial and Managerial Capability
- Local Commitment to Transit and Accessibility
- Safety and Training
- Coordination

Those who are awarded FTA funds will:

- Enter into a contract with, and become a Sub-recipient of, ADOT.
- Be required to comply with all Federal program requirements.

If you have questions about the Section 5311 Program, please contact ADOT's 5311 Program Managers, Sarah Fitzgerald at [SFitzgerald@azdot.gov](mailto:SFitzgerald@azdot.gov) or 602-712-7106 or Aubree Perry at [APerry2@azdot.gov](mailto:APerry2@azdot.gov) or 602-712-8947.

We look forward to receiving your application. Thank you for your interest in FTA funding.

Sincerely,



Jill Dusenberry  
Transit Group Manager

ADOT operates its programs and services without regard to race, color, national origin or disability in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA).